

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 30445 041447Z

64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EUR-12 /089 W

----- 093203

R 041044Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5657

UNCLAS BANGKOK 30445

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, TH

SUBJ: PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO CARTER VICTORY

SUMMARY: THAI PRESS NOV 4 GAVE FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO CARTER VICTORY. MFA STATEMENT ISSUED BEFORE ELECTION RESULTS KNOWN SAID THAILAND EXPECTED CONTINUED FRIENDLY RELATIONS, WHOEVER WON; OF CARTER IT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HOW HE WOULD IMPLEMENT EAST ASIAN POLICY, PARTICULARLY TOWARDS SOUTH KOREA AND CHINA. BANGKOK POST CARRIED ARTICLE CONTAINING MFA STATEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS TO CARTER VICTORY, PLUS EDITORIAL WHICH STATED CARTER SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO AVOID U.S. BECOMING ISOLATIONIST. END SUMMARY.

1. THAI PRESS CARRIED FRONT PAGE REPORTS ON NOV 4 OF CARTER'S ELECTION TO AMERICAN PRESIDENCY. BANGKOK POST PRINTED SECTION OF NOV 3 STATEMENT ISSUED BY MFA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT WHICH PERTAINED TO CARTER (MFA HAD ISSUED PRE-ELECTION STATEMENT SAYING THAT WHOEVER WON, THAILAND ANTICIPATED CONTINUED FRIENDLY AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONS). RE CARTER, STATEMENT SAID, ".... WE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO SEE HOW QUICKLY AND TO WHAT EXTENT HE WOULD MOVE TO IMPLEMENT HIS EAST ASIA POLICY, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO SOUTH KOREA AND CHINA. BOTH THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRC WOULD HAVE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BANGKO 30445 041447Z

A PROFOUND EFFECT ON THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS AND THE APPRE-

CIATION OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY COMMITMENTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN ASIA. BILATERALLY, WE WOULD EXPECT THAILAND AND THE U.S. TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH ONE ANOTHER IN THOSE MANY AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST."

2. POST ARTICLE GAVE RUN-DOWN OF INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS TO CARTER VICTORY: INDOCHINESE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, CHINA AND NORTH KOREA - NO REACTION; INDIA - HOPE FOR A CLEAN SLATE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS; JAPAN - VICTORY WELCOMED ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SOME CONCERN ABOUT FUTURE ECONOMIC POLICIES AND AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA; SOUTH KOREA - VICTORY WELCOMED WITH DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN PARTY SPOKESMAN CALLING FOR UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREAN ATTEMPT TO PROTECT FREEDOM AND PEACE AGAINST COMMUNIST AGGRESSION; TAIWAN - NO OPEN DISPLAY OF JUBILATION OR DISAPPOINTMENT, AS BOTH CANDIDATES HAD EXPRESSED SIMILAR CHINA POLICY; PHILIPPINES - NEWSPAPERS HAD SAID THAT RESULTS OF ELECTION WOULD MAKE LITTLE DIFFERENCE, BUT INFORMED SOURCES HAD REPORTED OPPOSITION ACTIVISTS HELD SYMPATHY FOR CARTER; MALAYSIA - PM HUSSEIN ONN EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE BONDS WITH U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO BE STRENGTHENED; INDONESIA - OFFICIALS BELIEVED U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT WORLD COMMITMENTS AND GOOD INDONESIAN-U.S. RELATIONS WOULD FURTHER DEVELOP; SINGAPORE - U.S. DOLLAR FELL IN TRADING AS CARTER GAINED LEAD, BUT AS VICTORY BECAME CERTAIN, NERVOUSNESS FADED AND DOLLAR REGAINED SOME OF LOST GROUND; BURMA - OFFICIALS SAID U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO RESPECT BURMESE/INDEPENDENCE AND NEUTRALITY; USSR - ATTRIBUTED FORD DEFEAT TO HIS INABILITY TO RESIST PRESSURE FROM RIGHT, THUS SHOWING HIMSELF TO BE MAN OF EXPEDIENCY RATHER THAN PRINCIPLE; FRANCE - GUARDED WELCOME FROM PRESIDENTIAL AIDES WHO EXPRESSED EAGERNESS TO SEE WHO WOULD BE NEXT SECSTATE; ITALY - INFORMED SOURCES SAID GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE PREFERRED FORD VICTORY FOR ECONOMIC REASONS; UK - CALLAGHAN SENT CONGRATULATIONS, SAYING HE HOPED FOR EARLY MEETING WITH CARTER.

3. POST EDITORIAL ENTITLED " NO TIME FOR A FORTRESS AMERICA" SAID VICTORY SHOULD BE WELCOMED WITH GUARDED OPTIMISM. EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES SHOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BANGKO 30445 041447Z

ABLE TO WORK BETTER TOGETHER, BUT CARTER SHOULD TAKE CARE NOT TO ALLOW ISOLATIONISM BECAUSE AMERICAN INTERESTS EXTEND BEYOND ITS SHORES WHERE IT NEEDS RELIABLE FRIENDS AND PARTNERS SUCH AS THAILAND. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES WITH NOTE THAT RTG HAS ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO BUILD DEMOCRACY ON FIRM FOUNDATIONS, "EFFORTS WHICH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION SHOULD ENCOURAGE, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE NUMBER OF DEMOCRACIES IN THE WORLD HAS DWINDLED VERY

FAST."

4. FOR DETAILED MEDIA REACTION THAI PRESS SEE USINFO  
SEPTTEL.  
WHITEHOUSE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BANGKO30445  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760412-0562  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761183/aaaactui.tel  
**Line Count:** 120  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** oatisao  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 MAR 2004 by chicheje>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by oatisao>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO CARTER VICTORY SUMMARY: THAI PRESS NOV 4 GAVE FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO CARTER VICTORY. MFA STATEMENT ISSUED BEFORE ELECTI  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US, TH, (CARTER, JIMMY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006